

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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Introduced by: Stilwell, Foley

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring Melissa Payne, for her courage and determination in bringing an issue before the Indiana General Assembly resulting in a repeat indecent offender statute that will assist in keeping repeat indecent offenders from preying upon our communities and Hoosier citizens with the creation of *STACY'S LAW*.

*Whereas, In the light of the tragic events of July 11, 2001 in Dale, Indiana, the need to establish Indiana's repeat indecent offender statute was referred to the 2002 Criminal Law Study Committee,*

*Whereas, Stacy Payne, a 15-year-old honor student, cheerleader, and exceptional young lady from a rural, thought-to-be-safe environment was tragically murdered because our system of probation for repeat indecent offenders failed;*

*Whereas, Melissa Payne, the sister of Stacy Payne, in response to this horrible loss has garnered the strength and determination to insure the laws that failed her sister were held*



*up for examination;*

*Whereas, Ms. Payne testified before the 2002 Criminal Law Study Committee, the 2003 House Courts and Criminal Code Committee and the Senate Criminal, Civil & Public Policy Committee;*

*Whereas, Representative Russ Stilwell and Representative Ralph Foley are the author and coauthor (respectively) of House Bill 1367 which passed the Indiana House 95-0;*

*Whereas, Senator Richard Bray and Senator Richard Young are the Senate sponsor and cosponsor (respectively) of House Bill 1367 which passed the Indiana Senate 48-1;*

*Whereas, Melissa Payne, with the support of her family, friends, and community, and with the support and testimony of Spencer County Prosecutor Jon Dartt in the above named committees, has led the challenge to change Indiana state law in memory of STACY'S LAW, Therefore;*

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the  
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives encourage the passage of House Bill 1367 to be referred to as Stacy's Law in memory of Stacy Payne.

SECTION 2. That STACY'S LAW will be a reminder to all that Melissa Payne and her family has changed Indiana law so that others may not have to endure the pain of their tragedy.

SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a copy of this Resolution to Melissa Payne and the Spencer County Prosecutor.

